(e) to (f) The requisite information has already been furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 161 dt. 18.11.1985.

Higher mark up on medicines

2183. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Higher mark up in new Policy likely", which appeared in 'the Economic Times' on 22nd November, 1985;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal before Government for higher mark up on medicines;

(c) whether such a proposal has been made on any factual data or study;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that the profitability of drug companies is one of the highest in this country;

(f) whether it is also a fact that number of instances of overcharging making unintended benefits and marketing without price approval of drug companies have come to Government's notice; and

(g) if so, what is the justification for allowing higher mark up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) and (g) Government has not yet finalised their views on New Drug Policy.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Several instances of the type referred to have come to the notice of the Government and action is being taken on these cases.

Overcharging and T.B. drugs

2184. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 189 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1985 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Isokin Liquid contains Isoniazide 50 mg per 5 ml and Isokin-300 contains Isoniazide 300 mg per tablet;

(b) whether it is a fact that Isoniazide is covered under category I of Drugs Price Control Order, 1979;

(c) whether it is fact that these are anti TB medicines;

(d) whether it is a fact that to provide anti-TB medicines to poor TB patients at cheap prices is one of our 20-Point Programmes;

(e) whether it is also a fact that since 1979, Warner Hindustan had been overcharging the poor TB patients; and

(f) if so, on what basis their overcharging activity has been regularised without any penal action as provided under provision 29 of Drugs Price Control Order, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Isokin Liquid contains Isoniazid 50 mg. per 5 ml. but, Isokin 300 tablets contain INH 300 mg|tablet and Vitamin B6 10 mg per tablet.

(b) Bulk drug Isoniazid is specified under Category I in the First Schedule to the Drugs (Prices Control) Orer, 1979.

(c) and (d) yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Position has already been explained in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 19 answered on 18th November, 1985.

Price control to cover all drugs

2185. SHRI (MOLANA) ASRARUL HAQ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned